



## Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**File No. 197**

Senate Bill No. 992

*Senate, March 25, 2009*

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. DOYLE of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING LOWERING PHARMACEUTICAL COSTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than December 31,  
2       2009, the Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the  
3       Commissioner of Public Health, shall submit a report, in accordance  
4       with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint  
5       standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
6       matters relating to human services, public health and appropriations,  
7       detailing options for lowering prescription drug prices for the state,  
8       businesses and consumers.

9       (b) Such report shall include: (1) A detailed description of the major  
10      strategies used in other states to lower drug prices and the effect of  
11      such strategies on health access, including, but not limited to,  
12      negotiation of supplemental Medicaid rebates, bulk purchasing of  
13      medications through multistate pools, accessing Medicaid rebates for  
14      consumers and pharmacies through federal Medicaid waivers,  
15      variations of pharmacy assistance programs and benefits offered,

16 expansion of state and private consumer assistance and discount  
17 programs, strategies used to access federal pricing schedules and  
18 expansion of programs established pursuant to 42 USC 256b and local  
19 programs to provide discounts to groups of residents; (2) a cost-benefit  
20 analysis and a feasibility analysis of establishing a multistate drug  
21 purchasing pool or joining an existing multistate drug purchasing  
22 pool; (3) recommendations for joining another state or existing multi-  
23 state drug purchasing pool in pooling Medicaid drug purchasing to  
24 realize the greatest cost savings for the state; (4) an analysis of the  
25 feasibility of implementing strategies used by other states to lower  
26 drug prices, as described pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection;  
27 and (5) all other findings and recommendations that the commissioner  
28 deems appropriate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**HS**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** Minimal

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

This bill requires the Departments of Social Services and Public Health to submit a report to the General Assembly concerning lowering consumer prescription drug prices. The departments will incur a minimal administrative cost to carryout the requirements of the bill.

***The Out Years***

None

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**SB 992**

***AN ACT CONCERNING LOWERING PHARMACEUTICAL COSTS.***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13      Nay 5      (03/10/2009)